

**PUBLIC MEETING  
August 24, 2010  
MINUTES**

Chairman Mike Murray called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. Commissioners Derek Brown and Andy Hunthausen were present. Others attending all or a portion of the meeting included Eric Bryson, Kelly Blake, K. Paul Stahl, Heidi Heiser, Nancy Everson, Lindsay Morgan, Kim Smith, Mark Simonich, Jack Walsh, and Rita Cortright, Recording Secretary.

Pledge of Allegiance. Everyone recited the pledge.

Consent Action Items. (Eric Bryson)

- a. Disaster and Emergency Services FY 2011 US Department of Homeland Security Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG). (Paul Spengler)

Eric Bryson reported on the consent agenda and recommended approval.

No public comments were received.

Commissioner Hunthausen moved to approve the consent action item and authorized the Chair to sign. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

Cooney Consultation Update. Eric Bryson presented the report from LarsonAllen Consultants on the initial analysis and then next steps with the operation of the Cooney Home. A comparison of actual 2010 and 2009 costs per resident day to regional and national benchmarks were highlighted. An analysis of the Medicare Program and Resource Utilization Groups (RUGS) rate utilization were reviewed.

Heidi Heiser stated that RUG numbers were based prior to the February implementation of the rehab unit. A re-analysis using current numbers after the rehab unit opened showed the ratios of ultra highs and very highs were not that far off.

Mr. Bryson continued. The consultant looked at ways that the county could cut costs and maximize revenue. The synopsis indicated that the benefits and group insurance, workers' compensation, pension, maintenance from county, and IT charges were structurally out of balance. The county may need to look into outsourcing the maintenance of the facility and IT service delivery. Occupancy was declining with an organizational census at 69%. The budget for this fiscal year showed significant reductions in staff, about 20%, to be more structurally in line. The budget also included an occupancy rating of 65 people. Current occupancy rate of the facility today is 52. LarsonAllen further indicated that Public Works maintenance services are significantly more costly than the benchmarks.

Recommended next steps from LarsonAllen would be to evaluate the market demand for nursing beds, including discussions with referral sources. The county has engaged in more marketing this year and secured a contract with the Veterans' Administration for

placement of vets in the facility. The firm recommended defining financial success and set financial goals. This was accomplished in the budget with staff reductions. Discussions would continue with referral sources for market demand for nursing beds.

Staff's recommended next step would be to formally form a relationship with St. Peters Hospital to do a management evaluation to help evaluate the future of long-term care. The Cooney Home is an enterprise fund and no general fund money goes towards operations.

Commissioner Murray stated that the county would continue providing the best level of care at the Cooney Home.

Request To Be Allowed To Go Through Modification Process for the Amended Plat of Lots 11B2A-3, 11B2A-4, and 11B2A-5 – Big Valley Subdivision (aka North Forty Subdivision). (Applicant: Kim Smith) (Planner: Lindsay Morgan)

Lindsay Morgan reported Mr. Smith has requested approval to go through the modification process to modify conditions of approval numbers 6, 9, 11 and 12. These conditions generally pertain to fire protection and offsite road improvements. A lawsuit has been served regarding preliminary approval, and was uncertain whether a tolling agreement was in the lawsuit. A request to extend the September 19 preliminary approval period would also need to be considered.

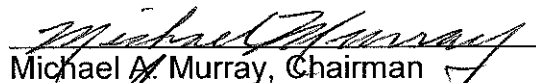
Larry Kim Smith, 7510 Applegate Drive. There are three 5-acre tracts that would create these 14 lots. He would like the four conditions removed.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve the request for consideration of the modifications. Commissioner Hunthausen seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.


Public comments on any public matter within the jurisdiction of the Commission that is not on the agenda above. Larry Kim Smith stated the Cooney Home is a valuable asset for Lewis and Clark County.

There was no other business, the meeting adjourned at 9:56 a.m.

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

  
Michael A. Murray, Chairman

  
Derek Brown

  
Andy Hunthausen

ATTEST:

  
Paulette DeHart, Clerk of the Board